



# 101<sup>st</sup> Ottawa (St. Aidan's) Scouting Group

## Newsletter



### Scout Popcorn Campaign 2015

Another Scout Popcorn campaign has come to a close and thanks to the efforts of the youth and parents, it was very successful one. We didn't quite reach last year's amount but still sold \$8,990 worth of popcorn. That amounts to a lot of popcorn!! The group will keep about \$3,690 of that amount, the rest going to pay for popcorn itself and part to fund Scouts Canada programs like financial assistance for Scouts in need. The portion we keep pays for programming in all four sections, training for youth and leaders, supplies like neckers and woggles, and camps. Popcorn alone subsidizes the all section winter camp to the amount of some \$1,500 so we can keep the cost low for parents.

Our participation rate was about 75% of youth selling popcorn, with many over the \$300 mark. Every year, we recognize our top sellers in each section and they get the chance to pie the Group Commissioner in the face at the end of the year celebration. This year's top sellers are:

**Beavers: Benjamin Finn**

**Cubs: Indira Marier**

**Scouts: Samuel Marier**

A special thank you to our parent volunteers who helped out with this year's campaign: Diane Lagace, Marlene Drouin and Martha Genest. Congratulations to all and enjoy your popcorn!

### Beaver Tales

The Beavers started out November with a night time hike at the Mer Bleu Boardwalk. This hike is great at night as they have likely see it during the day. The Beavers were very eager with their flashlights and headlamps and they learned about the importance of the bog and why we need to conserve it.

This was followed by a meeting when the Beavers made a special craft for Remembrance Day as well as fill the shoeboxes for kids.



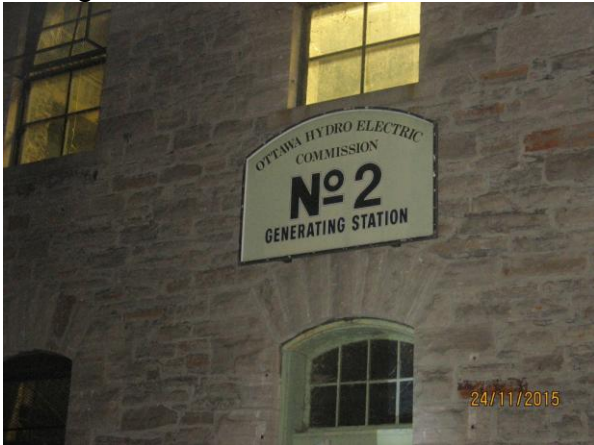
The Beavers showed the true Christmas spirit by taking part every year in Operation Christmas Child. This is a charity-run project where shoe boxes filled with small items like

toys, school supplies and personal items are sent to boys in girls around the world. This will be the only present these children will likely receive all year. The Beavers filled several shoe boxes that will be delivered to boys and girls in third world countries. The Beaver Leaders were overwhelmed with the generosity.



November 2015

The following week, the Beavers had a special Hot Wheels night where they played with cars, made ramps and tunnels for the cars. This was a chance for some mostly unstructured play and for the Beavers to play cooperatively by using their imagination.



The Beavers and Cubs then toured the Chaudière Falls Hydro Generating Station operated by Hydro Ottawa. This is the oldest generating station still functioning in Canada (built in 1892) and supplies a significant amount of power. The tour was organized by Franz Kropp who works at the station and is the dad of Beaver Callum. We saw the water intake that spins the turbines and the turbines themselves.



Originally built in 1891, Chaudière Generating Station No. 2 is Canada's oldest fully functional run-of-the-river hydroelectric facility. In 2001, the station was completely rebuilt. All of the generators were rewound, the turbines were replaced, the channels and dam structures were rehabilitated and the station was completely automated. All heritage elements of the station were preserved, with the equipment looking as it did 100 years ago.



But, as Murphy's Law would dictate, the station actually suffered a power loss while we there. The Beavers were convinced this was caused by the Chaudière ghost that haunts the station (just kidding) but added some good bit of excitement to the tour. A very special thanks to Franz and his colleagues at Hydro Ottawa for organizing this tour. We had a great time!



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November 2015



### Cub Corner

The Cubs started out the month of November talking about safety and what to do in case of an emergency. Cubs were really engaged and were asked to complete their family emergency plan. Cubs also made their Remembrance Day wreaths. The Cubs who have not already done so are encouraged to complete the 20-minute family safety exercise. There's a link to the federal government's emergency preparedness program on our website:

<http://www.101ottawa.com/cubs1.html>

On November 10<sup>th</sup>, we walked to the Perley Rideau Veteran's Health Centre to lay our wreaths at their Cenotaph. Cubs Sam R, Emily and Xavier read at story or poem about Remembrance Day and Cub Henry lead the pack in a moment of silence.

Six of our Cubs and two Leaders (Nate, Adrian, Jacob, Kieran, Indira, Bryden, Bagheera and Raksha) attended the Rideau Area FLEX Workshop in Osgoode.



The Cubs were taught how to work as a team by carrying a race track with a car through an obstacle course. The Cubs did a great job at collaborating and talking each other through the course without letting the car fall off the track.



They made new Kub Kar woggles and paired in twos they had to do a scavenger hunt around the perimeter of the area while holding a hoola hoop the entire time.



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The following week we had “Mrs. Akela” (aka Nicole Gravel-Blauer – a Nutritionist) come to the meeting to talk about healthy eating and had numerous games for the Cubs.



Finally our month ended with a tour of Chaudiere Falls with the Beavers.

The Beavers and Cubs were split into two groups: where the water comes into the station and what they need to do to keep the generators going; show the generators and controls; talk about the importance of the Ottawa River, and protecting endangered species in the river (American Eel).



### Scout Trails

The Scouts visited the Perley Rideau Veterans Home on November 4 to play bingo with the Veterans. The Scouts were paired with seniors that required assistance with finding the numbers when called, picking numbers for the Eastview Legion door prizes after every third

game, and escorting them back to their rooms following the game. Their attendance and help was much appreciated by all.

The 26th Scouts Canada Food Drive took place on November 7 at the Metro location at Walkley Road. We had a good turnout that day and filled 3 food baskets for the Purolator truck pick-up and collected lots of food & money donations from patrons after our long day. Scouters Shazeela and Ruth as well as Scouts Ethan and Noah returned to the church to help with the cleanup of furniture and provide assistance to patrons following the annual Holiday Bazaar and setting up for the Sunday breakfast.

The following week the youth had a fun night out at Coyote Rock Gym being belayed by the Scouters up the climbing wall and testing their limits.

Scout Max S. has spent the past two weeks teaching the Scouts about curling. The first week they learned strategy, posture, watched YouTube video and played with a table top version in order to test their skills and strategy, talked about Max's memorabilia (he's an avid curler) and items needed to play the game.



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This week the upper hall was setup as 2 curling lanes in order for leaders and youth to curl using Ivory Soap as our rocks, sponge as the hack, and various brooms for the skips to note where the rock was due to land for the perfect shot. Everyone had a blast playing and are looking forward to playing at the RCMP Curling Club on Sunday, January 17th from 5:30-7:30 pm. Information will be sent out soon from Scouter Jean to all leaders and parents.



### Christmas Appeal (Mitten Tree)

Each year, the 101<sup>st</sup> puts out a special Christmas Appeal to the youth and parents to help out others in our community. This year, we will again be seeking toques, mitts, gloves and socks for kids involved in Christie Lake Kids as well as gift baskets for Centre 454.



At the end of both meetings the youth provided input into the meal plans and equipment list for our upcoming survival skills, pre-winter camp taking place at Baxter Conservation Area on December 4-6. This event will allow our Senior Scouts to sleep independently of the group for the weekend in tents and lean-to shelters, cooking on lightweight stoves and campfire, and mastering their survival skills in the bush. The remaining group will be camping in the River Cabin and hiking along the trails on Saturday while putting some of their animal tracking and learning some scoutcraft/pioneering skills.

Christie Lake Kids (CLK) creates opportunities for economically disadvantaged children and youth in Ottawa that changes the trajectory of their young lives through sport, arts, camp, mentoring and leadership programming that recognizes their needs, supports and challenges them. One of these programs is run 2 blocks from St. Aidan's at the Dempsey Community Centre. CLK's summer camp is also just up the road from Camp Opemikon.



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We will also put together gift packages for Centre 454. Centre 454, a free daytime drop-in serving the homeless and those at risk of homelessness in the Ottawa area. We are committed to serving those who require assistance in the form of support services, social recreation and essential needs. The Centre provides supportive counselling, crisis intervention, hygiene supplies, laundry facilities and seasonal clothing. The outreach team provides support to disabled individuals as they apply for ODSP (Ontario Disability Support Program) benefits.

These packages will include small toiletries, candies, mitts or a hat.

**Our Mitten Tree will be up on December 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. We know that you're pulled a dozen different ways at Christmas for good causes. If you take a mitten (or two), your gift will be put to immediate good use. Please bring in your donations by December 15<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup>.**

### Remembrance Service at St. Aidan's



On Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, a small group of Scouts and Leaders attended a special service by our sponsor, St. Aidan's Anglican Church to honour our Veterans.

Beavers Isabelle Drouin and Sophie Humphries, Cub Xavier Drouin, Scout Ethan Humphries and Venturer Casey Higginson all took part.

*Choose Hope!*



### White Tail Sleepover

What a great night!

The Museum White Tail sleepover comes but once a year, and once in a Beaver lifetime as only White Tails attend. It is an opportunity for our youth to meet other Beavers, while playing and learning in group settings. Imagine sleeping inside the museum, with no parents, and 224 others - that is exactly what we did. This year certainly lived up to its promise of being jam-packed full of fun activities. Trepid parents dropped off their Beaver asking "Are you sure?", and wondered how their small Beaver could possibly carry all their stuff. We Leaders were not worried - we knew they were up to the challenge, and they easily proved us right. Moments later, it was on! The whole evening seemed like a blur. Then again, maybe that was the lack of sleep.

After literally dropping our gear in our new home - the Japan House - we were off. Our first challenge was to cut, build, and colour shadow puppets. We leaders quickly realized that the Beavers were much more adept at cutting than we were.



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Next our Beavers got to help tell a story by playing djembe drums. We were very proud at how well they all listened, and focussed. Learning about la Nouvelle France, and les Voyageurs was next. We even got to meet a (previously) real beaver, and try out our trading skills, trading pelts for goods. Then it was off to the Lego area, for some free style building. I wonder if our Beavers noticed the engineering that went into Hawkeye's creation.



After a snack of a giant chocolate chip cookie and juice, it was time to get into our PJs for campfire. Scouting campfires are never quiet,

and we enjoyed action songs about Pink Pajamas, Coneheads, and so much more.



Finally – it was bed time, with our own Bucky waiting patiently for us at our abode. Note... bedtime does not equal sleep time... at least not till countless water breaks, washroom breaks and chats with neighbours and friends were complete.



After a few short hours (and maybe a couple more washroom breaks), the lights came on at 6:15am with a hearty "Good Morning Beavers!" over the speaker. Get dressed, pack up, and go! We apologize for the lack of teeth and hair brushing- we were not nearly that co-ordinated. The first round of activities was building cool wooden tops, including trying out mallets. Thankfully no Leader's fingers were crushed.



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Next came giant sized games, including Dominos, Snakes-and-Ladders with Beavers as the playing pieces, Connect Four, Jenga, Tic Tac Toe, and Ring Toss. The Beavers enjoyed playing with the giant pieces so much that many chose to not rotate to the other games. Finally, with energy waning, came a hearty breakfast. All was quiet as we inhaled all the cereal, muffins, fruit, juice (and coffee) we wanted. Then, sadly, it was over.

Thank you all for allowing your White Tail Beaver to join, and thank you to all the Voyageur Council volunteer leaders who organize a fantastic event. We Leaders had a blast too.



### Dates for your Calendar

- December 4-6: Scouts camp at Baxter Conservation Area
- December 17: Beavers singing at St. Aidan's Community Carol Sing-Along
- January 8-10, 2016: All-Sections Winter Camp at Opemikon
- February 20: Rideau Area Kub Kar Rally at Jim Durrell Arena
- February 20: Rideau Area Klondike Derby

Visit our website regularly for updates:  
<http://www.101ottawa.com/>



### All Sections Winter Camp

Our highly anticipated annual All Sections Winter Camp is coming up the weekend of January 8-10. This is the only such camp during the year when all of the youth get a chance to be together at a camp. Confirmations and payments are due by **December 16<sup>th</sup>** to secure your spots.



**Saying Thanks to a dedicated Scouter is easier than you might think...**

<http://www.scouts.ca/thanks/>



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